

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03911 242012Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
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R 241245Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3911

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PINT, UR  
SUBJECT: JEWISH "SUNDAY SEMINAR" FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SESSION

REF: 76 MOSCOW 19679

1. VIKTOR BRAYLOVSKIY AND MARK AZBEL BRIEFED US MARCH 23 ON PLANS FOR THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SESSION OF THE SUNDAY SEMINAR. THE ORGANIZERS PLAN TO CONVOKE THE ANNIVERSARY SESSION ON APRIL 17. THE ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS WILL LAST THREE DAYS AND WILL TAKE PLACE IN BRAYLOVSKIY'S APARTMENT. THE THEMES FOR THE SESSIONS OF THE SEMINAR ARE FROM THE EXACT SCIENCIES ALONE; THERE WILL BE NO PAPERS ON JEWISH OR CULTURAL THEMES.

2. THE SEMINAR ORGANIZERS HAVE INVITED NO FOREIGNERS TO PARTICIPATE, EITHER PERSONALLY OR BY SENDING PAPERS. THEY HAVE NOT INFORMED WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS HERE OF THE DATES OF THE SEMINAR AND ARE ATTEMPTING TO AVOID ALL PUBLICITY FOR IT. FOREIGN PARTICIPATION WILL BE LIMITED TO THOSE FOREIGNERS WHO HAPPEN TO BE IN MOSCOW AND EXPRESS A DESIRE TO COME TO A SESSION.

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3. BRAYLOVSKIY AND AZBEL EXPLAINED THAT THEY HOPE TO AVOID A KGB DECISION TO FORCE THE CANCELLATION OF THE SEMINAR. THEY CLAIMED THAT THE AUTHORITIES HAVE, IN EFFECT, TACITLY AGREED TO ALLOW THE SEMINAR TO CONTINUE ITS ACTIVITIES. THEY FEEL IT MORE IMPORTANT THAT THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS SHOULD CONTINUE THAN THAT THE ANNIVERSARY SHOULD

BECOME THE OBJECT OF AN OSTENTATIOUS CELEBRATION WHICH  
MIGHT PRODUCE INTERVENTION BY THE KGB.

4. OUR SOURCES ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT THE ABORTIVE  
JEWISH CULTURAL AFFAIRS SYMPOSIUM IN DECEMBER (REFTEL). MAY HAVE  
MADE THE AUTHORITIES MORE DESIROUS OF REPRESSING FURTHER MAN-  
IFESTATIONS OF JEWISH DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES. THE IZVESTIYA  
PIECE OF MARCH 5 (IN WHICH JEWISH DISSIDENTS WERE ACCUSED  
OF WORKING FOR THE CIA) HAS MADE THE SEMINAR'S ORGANIZERS  
PARTICULARLY CAUTIOUS. WHILE THEY REGRET THE FACT THAT  
THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MUST BE MARKED IN SUCH A LOW-KEY  
FASHION, THEY FEEL THAT THEY HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF  
SUCCESSFULLY CARRYING OUT THE THREE-DAY PROGRAM OF  
SCIENTIFIC PAPERS.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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